lakhs against the 50% construction cost of 5 coastal police stations during the year 2005-06 only.

**Rangnath Mishra Commission Report**

3930. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to table Ranganath Mishra Commission report;

(b) if so, whether they are going to table it in the current Budget Session; and

(c) if not, the reasons and difficulties for not tabling it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Based on the inputs as made available by Ministry of Minority Affairs, the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) chaired by Justice (Retd.) Ranganath Mishra, submitted its report to the Government in May, 2007. The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration. Decision to table the report in Parliament has not yet been taken by the Government.

**Legislation to tackle the hostile witnesses**

3931. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the accused persons involved in heinous crimes get acquitted on account of hostile witnesses in the court;

(b) if so, the whether Government proposes to bring forward any legislation to tackle the hostile witnesses; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when that legislation is likely to be brought forward?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (c) Data regarding hostile witnesses is not being maintained. However, to ensure reliability of witness during deposition in court and also to contain the menace of witnesses turning hostile, the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Bill, 2006 has, *inter alia*, a proposal to insert new sections 164B and 344A in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 to provide that the statements of all persons which appear to be material and essential for proper investigation of the case relating to offences punishable with death or imprisonment for ten years or more shall be recorded on oath by Magistrate who will also satisfy himself that such person is making the statement voluntarily and not under any inducement, threat or promise and also to enhance the punishment for perjury after the summary trial.

No time-frame can be fixed for enactment of the legislation.